

## THE PROPHET JOSEPH'S LAST DREAM.

By request we publish the last dream of the Prophet Joseph Smith, as he related it two days before his martyrdom, to W. W. Phelps, according to the latter's account, which he inserted in his *Almanac* for 1863, copies of which are exceedingly scarce. Whether the dream is correctly repeated, or whether it has any significance we leave for our readers to determine for themselves. "The wise shall understand."

"In June, 1844, when Joseph Smith went to Carthage and delivered himself up to Governor Ford, I accompanied him, and while on the way thither, he related to me and his brother Hyrum the following dream:

"He said: 'While I was at Jordan's in Iowa the other night, I dreamed that myself and my brother Hyrum went on board of a large steamboat, lying in a small bay, near the great ocean. Shortly after we went on board there was an alarm of fire, and I discovered that the boat had been anchored some distance from the shore, out in the bay, and that an escape from the fire, in the confusion, appeared hazardous; but, as delay was folly, I and Hyrum jumped overboard, and tried our faith at walking upon the water.

"At first we sank in the water nearly to our knees, but as we proceeded we increased in faith, and were soon able to walk upon the water. On looking towards the burning boat in the east we saw that it was drifting towards the wharf and the town, with a great flame and clouds of smoke; and, as if by whirlwind, the town was taking fire, too; so that the scene of destruction and horror of the frightened inhabitants was terrible.

We proceeded on the bosom of the mighty deep, and were soon out of sight of the land. The ocean was still; the rays of the sun were bright, and we forgot all the troubles of our Mother Earth. Just at that moment I heard the sound of a human voice, and, turning round, saw my brother Samuel H. approaching towards us from the east. We stopped, and he came up. After a moment's conversation he informed me that he had been lonesome back, and had made up his mind to go with me across the mighty deep.

We all started again, and in a short time were blest with the first sight of a city, whose gold and silver steeples and towers were more beautiful than any I had ever seen or heard of on earth. It stood, as it were, upon the western shore of the mighty deep, we were walking on, and its order and glory seemed far beyond the wisdom of man. While we were gazing upon the perfection of the city, a small boat launched off from the port, and almost as quick as thought came to us. In an instant they took us on board and saluted us with a welcome, and with music such as is not on earth. The next scene, on landing, was more than I can describe: the greeting of old friends, the music from a thousand towers, and the light of God himself, at the return of three of his sons, soothed my soul into a quiet and a joy that I felt as if I was truly in heaven. I gazed upon the splendor; I greeted my friends. I awoke and lo, it was a dream!

While I meditated upon such a marvelous scene, I fell asleep again, and behold I stood near the shore of the burning boat, and there was a great consternation among the officers, crew and passengers of the flaming craft, as there seemed to be much ammunition or powder on board. The alarm was given that the fire was near the magazine, and in a moment, suddenly it blew up, with a great noise, and sank in deep water with all on board. I turned to the country east, among the bushy openings, and saw William and Wilson Law endeavoring to escape from the wild beasts of the forest, but two lions rushed out of a thicket and devoured them. I awoke again."

I will say that Joseph never told this dream again, as he was martyred about two days after. I relate from recollection as nearly as I can. PHELPS.

Gum camphor placed around the haunts of mice will drive them away; before going, they sing in chorus—"O, gum, gum away."

## THE LADIES OF WEBER COUNTY.

At a special meeting of Weber County Relief Society, held in Ogden in July last, President Brigham Young requested that each branch of the Society of that county should make a written report of their condition and circumstances, financial, etc., to be read at a general meeting in the Ogden Tabernacle three months from that time. In accordance with that request the meeting convened in the Ogden Tabernacle, Tuesday, Oct. 30, at 10 o'clock a. m. On account of the high wind on that day there was not such a large attendance of sisters as had been anticipated, yet there was a good representation from the various towns of the county. The reports were brief, comprehensive and systematic, and those who heard them had good opportunity of judging women's capacity for managing business, and also wisely disbursing funds for charitable purposes. These reports dated back to the commencement of each respective branch of the Society and gave full statistical particulars.

Many excellent remarks were made. The meeting was ably conducted by Mrs. Jane S. Richards, President of the Weber County branch of the Relief Society.

There were present from Salt Lake City, Miss E. R. Snow, Mrs. M. I. Horne, Mrs. Priscilla Kimball, Mrs. S. S. Richards, Mrs. S. M. Kimball, Mrs. E. B. Wells, Mrs. L. G. Richards and Mrs. Zina Y. Williams, and from Brigham City, Mrs. Harriet Snow. These ladies each addressed the meeting, expressing their zeal and earnestness on all subjects which related to the building up of Zion. Home industries, especially sericulture, was one item to which the particular attention of the sisters was drawn. The storing of grain by women, the promoting of home literature the sustaining of the *Woman's Exponent* were treated upon in a spirit calculated to do good.

President D. H. Peery, before the close of the morning session, spoke eloquently upon the intuition of women, their spiritual characteristics, their oftentimes wise counsel and judicious caution, and the lasting impressions of the early teachings of mothers. His good words to and of woman will not be forgotten by those who had the pleasure of hearing them.

At the close of the afternoon session, Apostle F. D. Richards addressed the meeting, referring to the assemblage held there when President Young so earnestly inquired of the sisters, "Will you do these things?" After having instructed them with regard to duty on various subjects, one important item was the raising of silk, Elder Richards blessed the sisters, and prayed God to bless them, and his words carried with them the power and influence of the spirit of God. The meeting was adjourned until January 31st, 1878, in honor of the anniversary of the birthday of the President, Mrs. Jane S. Richards.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

WASHINGTON, D. C.,  
October 31, 1877.

Editors Deseret News:

Not until now, two weeks from the beginning of the extra session, is the Forty-fifth Congress organized and ready for work. The personnel of the committees, although in the main as had been predicted, still comprises surprise and disappointment to many. New England is offended because, while she has five democratic representatives, she has not been honored with a single chairmanship; and the western and middle States are jealous of the south, because they have been given respectively only eleven and nine chairmanships, while the south has twenty-six. Dissatisfaction with Mr. Randall's distribution of honors is only less pronounced than when Mr. Kerr, two years ago, made Mr. Morrison the head of the leading committee, and arranged the other minor committees in fantastic keeping with the first, making the chairman of the naval committee a man whom they said had never seen the sea. It is unfortunate for Mr. Randall,

perhaps, but good for the country, that he did not perform the miracle of giving to every man the place he desired. An analysis of the committees with reference to States, will suggest the basis of some of the criticisms to which the appointments of the Speaker are subjected. New York has five chairmanships, three of which are important; New Jersey, two; Pennsylvania, two; Maryland, three; Virginia, two; North Carolina, three; Georgia, two; Alabama, one; Mississippi, one; Ohio, three; Kentucky, two; Tennessee, three; Indiana, two; Illinois, five; Missouri, four; Arkansas, one; Michigan, one; Texas, two. The chief interest, of course, attaches to the committee of which Hon. Fernando Wood has been made chairman, and which will, sooner or later, present a new tariff bill. Of the members of this committee, the chairman is in favor of revising the revenue laws; Mr. Tucker, of Va., is a low-tariff man; Messrs. Saylor, Burchard and Rollings are known as revenue reformers; Messrs. Harris, of Ga., and Gibson, of La., are for protecting some articles and for admitting others free; Mr. Kelley, of Pa., is a champion protectionist; Mr. Banks, of Mass., favors revision; while Mr. Garfield, of Ohio, floats the broad pennant of free trade.

The day on which the committees were announced was marked by the introduction of the unprecedented number of 545 bills. Some of these bills foreshadow important legislation, as a change in the manner of electing the President and Vice President; the reduction of letter postage to two cents; uniform certificates of election for members of Congress, and various bills in reference to finance and commerce; but much the larger number were private bills, or such as will rest in the pigeon holes of the committee rooms for years or forever.

Congress is now ready for work; but will it work? The opinion of the politically acute is that it will do little or nothing until after the November elections. Any expressions on the questions of the currency, or the administrative policy of the government is feared by both parties which have formed into corps of observation on their respective frontiers, watching each other sleeplessly but neither seeming disposed to take the initiative, until after the culmination of certain political events in the States.

There is much talk of the deep and increasing dissatisfaction, among a large and respectable body of republicans, with the policy of the administration. The more important nominations of the President have not been confirmed, and it is said, that they, including his nomination to the supreme bench, will not be confirmed. A powerful and irreconcilable faction, or, perhaps, majority of republicans, are awaiting only the result of the fall elections to express themselves in emphatic words and deeds. What the result will be the future alone can tell. The administration seems to be calm and determined, while Mr. Conkling, the nucleus of the opposition, has neither abated nor cooled since his eruption at Rochester. Perhaps it will be a repetition of the fool's puzzle in physics: the collision of an irresistible and an immovable body.

Newspaper Rowe complains of an unexampled scarcity of news; but says it will be lively enough soon. When the denizens of that classic barracks are unable to learn anything in the way of truth, they open their ears to the whisperings of their imaginations. In short, they manufacture, something, and, so perfect are they, from long practice, that it has the smell of probability, if not the verisimilitude of fact.

The social capital, as well as the political, is in an amorphous condition, without form and void. Some predict a brilliant, social season, but the prevailing impression is that this will be the quietest winter since the war, so far as receptions, Germans, and social entertainments are concerned. This extra session and raw administration has disarranged things. Members have come here without their wives and have taken only temporary lodgings, and now they cannot go home to vote! not on account of civil service rules, but because there is no law granting mileage to members for an extra session. Mr. Hayes has entreated Congress into paying for their railroad tickets and their only recourse will be to sue him for damages! C. A. S.

## Pain the Penalty for Superiority.

The ideal perfect life that men imagine, is always one in which pain forms no part; yet curiously, in all the life we know, pain is ever the penalty paid for superiority. The higher the organism in the scale of being, the greater its capacity for pain; this is the universal rule. Mutilation, such as an insect bears without inconvenience, will kill a reptile. A fish or a reptile disregards injuries that would be quickly fatal to a mammal through nervous shock. A savage laughs at wounds that would rack the nervous system of a civilized man with acutest agony. Thus in every instance capacity for pain is the measure of development. Evolution being attended by an ever-increasing complexity and delicacy of nervous organization it is inevitable that increasing liability to nervous derangement must mark every upward movement in the scale of being. Will the price of elevation ever rise so high as to put an end to progress in this direction? There would certainly seem to be a possibility of such a result, when we consider the fate of those most admirable persons who are, as we say, too finely strung for this rude world. The acuteness and delicacy of their sensibilities make them at once the highest moral and intellectual types of humanity, and physically the most unfortunate. And they rarely or never leave behind them a vigorous family.—*Scientific American.*

## Improvement of Seeds.

Mr. Hallett, of Bristol, England, well known for his successful experiments in improving the quality and yield of seed grains, through careful selection, in relation to this question says: "Very close observation during many years has led me to the discovery that the variations in the cereals which nature presents to us are not only hereditary, but that they proceed upon a fixed principle, and from them I have deduced the following law of development of cereals:

1. Every fully-developed plant, whether of wheat, oats or barley, presents an ear superior in productive power to any of the rest on that plant.
2. Every such plant contains one grain, which, upon trial, proves more productive than any other.
3. The best grain in a given plant is found in its best ear.
4. The superior vigor of this grain is transmissible in different degrees in its progeny.
5. By repeated careful selection the superiority is accumulated.
6. The improvement, which is at first rapid, gradually, after a long series of years, is diminished in amount, and evidently so far arrested that, practically speaking, a limit to improvement in the desired quality is reached.
7. By still continuing to select, the improvement is maintained, and practically a fixed type is the result."

## BY TELEGRAPH.

### AMERICAN.

INDIANAPOLIS, 5.—Rain fell from daylight to noon. From noon to dark it grew colder, with considerable wind. The temperature had fallen twelve degrees up to sundown. From the opening of the court house doors this morning until 10.30 an uninterrupted throng moved through, viewing the honored remains of Senator Morton. At that hour the pall bearers took a last look, when the casket was taken to the hearse and thence to the residence, escorted by military. The first room at the left from the hall was gracefully draped with flags and mourning emblems. In front of the mirror, between the front windows of this apartment, stood a magnificent spray of white flowers. In the centre of the room, fronting the entrance, stood a floral pillow with a group of white and a secondary purple border, bearing upon the centre, in violets, the word "Rest." Immediately back of this, beneath the mantel, was a floral medallion, having inserted at its top a sheaf of full, ripe wheat. This was bordered with white roses, having opposite the sheaf and on the bottom of the circle as it lay the letter "M" in blue flowers, the whole bordered with a wreath of smilax. In the second room on the right, standing on the piano, stood a floral harp bearing the motto, "Our friend," and the ini-

tials "O. P. M.," flanked on the right and left by two broken floral shafts, and in the rear by a portion of the decorations used at the Court House. In this room was also placed a floral pillow bearing the legend "Indiana's Pride," from Judge Martindale. In the third room stood an easy chair, more eloquent in its vacancy than all the floral tributes, draped with the stars and stripes and mourning colors. In this room was also located a shaft of laurel and ivy leaves, surmounted by a white dove, from whose beak suspended a wreath of smilax and ivy, and the motto, "A slight testimonial of gratitude we bear to one who was the unswerving advocate of woman suffrage, Mrs. Frances Miller and Phoebe Cozzens, St. Louis." In this room was also deposited a floral pillow composed principally of tube roses, in the centre of which appeared the motto, "The nation mourns." The casket was deposited in the fourth or east room against the mantel, on which rested a wreath of tube roses and carnations, with the motto "Rest" in purple immortelles, from the President and Mrs. Hayes, brought by Burchard Hayes. This was flanked on one side by a shield of white roses, bearing in the centre the initials "O. P. M." in purple immortelles, and on the other by an anchor, from the colored citizens of Philadelphia.

As soon as practicable the house was cleared and the family left for a brief hour with their dead. Upon opening the door the time was occupied, prior to the removal of the remains to the hearse, by committees from the Cabinet, Senate and House of Representatives, distinguished guests and letter carriers in taking a last look, after which the funeral cortege was formed according to the programme. The church decorations were elaborate and striking, more so than those at the house, but are better imagined than described.

At 12.25 the great organ sounded the opening notes of Beethoven's funeral march on the death of Hero. Then came the farewell from "Jephtha," by Handel; March Funere Chopin Lachrymose, from the requiem of Mozart; funeral march, Mendelssohn; "Elegy of Tears," Schubert; funeral march to the memory of O. P. Morton, by Wm. H. Clark, and last an andante from the seventh symphony by Beethoven. The choir of 150 voices filled the space between the organ and pulpit, stretching around the turn into the gallery above. While the farewell from "Jephtha" was mailing out from the organ the letter carriers, gray uniformed and white gloved, came in at the side door, each bearing the floral tributes which had been sent to the Morton homestead. On two stands at the head and foot of the bier stood a broken pillar of flowers, the gift of Mrs. Hill and Mrs. Ingram Fletcher the lyre and pillar from Mrs. Hayes. Around the altar rail and on each side of the pulpit stood the floral anchor from President Hayes, and the anchor from the colored citizens of Philadelphia under the pulpit, the star from Mr. and Mrs. Robert Emmett, the pillow from Mrs. Martindale and one from Chauncey Filley, St. Louis.

At 1 o'clock the remains were brought into the church, preceded by the officiating clergymen and followed by the pall-bearers—Hon. E. B. Martindale, Hon. J. N. Tyner, Assistant Postmaster General, Dr. W. C. Thompson, ex-Governor Conrad Baker, General James A. Elkin, Assistant Postmaster General; Hon. John F. Kibbey, Hon. Henry Taylor, Hon. A. J. Porter, followed by the family and relatives. Then came Senators Davis, Burnside, Bayard, MacDonald, Cameron, of Pennsylvania, and Booth of California; Representatives Banks, Cobb, Townsend, Burchard, Davidson and Hanna. Then followed the secretaries of war and navy, attorney general and Burchard Hayes, ex-Governor Hendricks, Governor Williams, Hon. Benj. Bristow, Gen. John M. Harlan, Governor Young, of Ohio, Governor Cullom, of Illinois, Colonel Ingersoll, Murat Halstead, Mayor Moore, Theo. Cook, Judge Cox, of Cincinnati, and many other distinguished visitors both from abroad and every section of this State.

At 1.10 the choir sung the anthem, "Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and he shall sustain thee."

At 1.20 Rev. Myron W. Ried read from the Scriptures, first the nineteenth Psalm, and closing with the twelfth chapter of Ecclesiastes.